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398

GIRL LEPER BATTLES FOR NEW LIFE

Authorities Experiment to Save Her—Lepers Not
Isolated Until Disease Is Far Advanced—Ride
in Street Cars and On "L" Trains.

BY IDAH McGLONE GIBSON

New York, Feb. 18.—I have seen and talked to a 17-year-old girl afflicted with leprosy, that ancient disease supposed to be the curse of God.

Magellen McLean, isolated in a room at the Hudson County (N. J.) Hospital for Contagious Diseases, has leprosy in its advanced stages.

When I entered the room I saw, huddled in an arm chair next to the radiator between the two windows, a slight form whose face was buried in a book.

"Magellen, I have brought a friend of mine to see you," said Supt. McDonough.

Instantly the girl arose and smiled—yes, with full knowledge of her condition she could still smile. The ravages of her disease had begun to show in her face, which quickly settled back into a wistful questioning.

"What are you reading?" I asked.

"A romantic novel, all about kings and conspiracies."

"Do you read your bible?" asked the superintendent. "Do you like to read it?"